



Today's playbook provided by Fair Grounds racing analyst Joe Kristufek, who has an extensive background in the horse racing industry as a handicapper, on-air talent, producer and fan development specialist. He is well recognized for his creative analysis and wagering tactics and he loves interacting with racing fans. **Follow on Twitter @JoeyDaKRacing**

Selections are ranked on an ABC scale from A – top selections (limited to double the number of races on the card), B – tough to toss, and C – use in multi-race wager spreads & minors in intra-race wagers. Subject to change due to track conditions and scratches. Tune into the paddock show for the most up-to-date information. Check program numbers for accuracy.

Joe's 24-25 Top Pick Season Stats thru December 20

Races	Wins	2 nd	3 rd	Win%	WIN ROI	WPS%	WPS ROI	A	A%
62	24	9	4	38.7%	\$1.68	59.7%	\$4.75	33	53.2%

Saturday, December 21, 2024

	Race Feel	A	B	C
Race 1 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)	Contentious race to start the day. #7 overcame trouble & just missed last out – can he repeat it?	7, 3, 2	4, 5, 8	
Race 2 – 50-cent PK 4	Lone A #8 is supposed to win this race, BUT she has been her own worst enemy at times. Wouldn't argue with opposing view.	8	5, 2	1, 3, 4
Race 3 – 50-cent PK 3	Well-bred #1 gets a fresh start with Cox. #2 has never been better + versatile. #10 best turf form + blinkers + Luis.	1, 2, 10	3, 6, 12, 9	
Race 4 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)	As much as I'd like to oppose lone A #4, the competition doesn't warrant it. Watch tote on sneaky #3.	4	5, 6, 3	2

Race 5 – 50-cent PK 4	Love what I saw on replay from lone A #7, who picks up Jose.	7	4, 2	3
Race 6 – 50-cent PK 3	Lone A #1 failed as the favorite last out at Kee, but she was forced to close on a speed bias turf. Ready for this.	1	3, 2, 4	5, 6
Race 7 – \$1 PK 6 (15%, no jackpot)	#1 looked like a horse who would relish more ground in the Kee win & he should fly under the radar to an extent here. #5 one to beat.	1, 5	3, 2	4
Race 8 – 50-cent PK 5	Price shot #3 chased hot fractions & held well last out. #6 & #1 posses dangerous stretch kicks	3, 6, 1	4, 7	
Race 9 – 50-cent PK 4	All eyes will be on #7, but Cox's other runner #2 is an up and comer who would benefit from a contested pace. #1 loves this track & #3 should sit the right trip.	2, 1, 3, 7		6, 8
Race 10 – 50-cent PK 3	Price shot #5 stretches back out off a troubled sprint & he might be on edge for a big run. #2 rates on consistency.	5, 2	3, 6, 4	
Race 11	Lone A #4 won easier than it looks last out. If not her it could be one of many.	4	3, 6, 5	1, 2, 7, 8
Race 12	Perhaps the best betting race of the day saved for last. Big ticket #5 ran well to be 3 rd in what could turn out to be a key race on debut. #2 thrown to the wolves in last. Appreciates the return to maidens.	5, 2	1, 3, 4	9, 8, 11, 10

Thursday's Results: AAABAABAX

Most Likely Winner: Race 4 -- #4 Touch Catch (8-5 ML)

Best Bet: Race 6 -- #1 Lute Warm (5-2 ML)

Longshot: Race 8 -- #3 Dhabab (8-1 ML)

Favorite Against: Race 9 -- #7 Saudi Crown (9-5 ML)